

# PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
May 30, 2006

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## **West Brookfield's Quaboag On The Common Hosts Congressman Olver, Senator Brewer, Representative Gobi, and USDA**

**W. Brookfield, MA** – The elder care facility, *Quabog on the Common*, hosted a delegation of federal, state and local officials today as it accepted a check worth over \$2 million in federal loan funds. Congressman John Olver arrived at the West Brookfield nursing home with State Senator Stephen Brewer, State Representative, Anne Gobi, and USDA Rural Development Director, David Tuttle, to personally deliver the funds.

*Quaboag on the Common* is a 141-bed nursing home which is owned and operated by GF/Massachusetts, Inc., a non-profit corporation. The facility serves the rural areas of Hampshire and Worcester counties enabling families to place their elder loved ones locally. *Quaboag on the Common* will use the \$2,030,500 USDA Community Facilities Loan to rehabilitate a full-size, on-site wastewater treatment system on its five acre property. The existing on-site sewage disposal system was built in 1956, and has had several leaching system breakouts.

USDA Rural Development's Community Facilities Program, from which the funds for the *Quaboag on the Common* project were provided, aims to enhance the quality of life and opportunities in rural communities by developing essential community facilities. The 40-year, 4.375%, federal loan will also be used to provide the nursing home with new furniture, window treatments, bed coverings, wall coverings, tables and chairs, desks and television cabinets.

"I am delighted with the level of commitment USDA and *Quaboag on the Common* have demonstrated to residents in ensuring a continued level of waste management service throughout the years," said Senator Brewer, "This money will allow the nursing home to make further improvements on the facility, guaranteeing a clean, healthy environment for years to come."

"Quaboag on the Common has a rich tradition of providing quality care to its residents, this loan will allow them to move forward with that mission while also enhancing the environmental quality of the community, said State Representative Anne Gobi.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for all rural Americans. USDA Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. In Fiscal Year 2005, USDA Rural Development provided over \$58.5 million in assistance to Massachusetts' rural communities and families.

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